

Hartford Elementary News

Take Your Child to Vote on November 6th!

Part of teaching our children to be good citizens is to teach them the election process. Every election is important and each vote does count. We are a "Kid's Voting" school. This means we allow our parents to pick up their child when they go to the polls and the students do their very own voting. Students are not counted absent when you pick them up and take them along with you. We have a separate area for students to vote at each polling area in our district and students will receive a pencil and either a Kid's Voting eraser or a Presidents' ruler. Our high school seniors work at the Kid's Voting Booths and assist the students if they need help. I have a sample ballot for the students on my website that you access at <http://tylerweb.wikispaces.com/Kids+Voting+2012> if you would like to review this with them before they hit the voting booth!

Please don't miss this opportunity for educating your child in this duty and responsibility we all hold.



November Events

- Thursday, Nov. 1 - Distribute 2nd grade fundraiser items 3:30 - 7:00 pm
- Saturday, Nov. 3 - Student flu shots 8 - Noon @ Hartford Elementary
- Monday, Nov. 5 - Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 8:00 pm
- Thursday, Nov. 8 - Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 8:00 pm
- Friday, Nov. 9 - No School
- Monday, Nov. 12 - Veterans' Day Program @ 2:00 pm
- Tuesday, Nov. 13 - Bookmobile
- Friday, Nov. 16 - PTA Donuts for Dads; Trojan Buck Store
- Saturday, Nov. 17 - Student flu Shots 8 - Noon @ Humboldt Elementary
- Tuesday, Nov. 20 - Health Screenings for 1st & 2nd Grade Students
- Wednesday, Nov. 21 - Staff Development Day - No School
- Thursday, Nov. 22 - Thanksgiving - No School
- Friday, Nov. 23 - No School
- Wednesday, Nov. 28 - Health Screenings for 1st & 2nd Grade Students
- Thursday, Nov. 29 - Hearing Screenings for 1st Grade Students



High school seniors prepare elementary students for the November election by having them register to vote.



THE OCTOBER BIRTHDAY BASH

The October Birthday Bash was held on Tuesday, October 23rd. Mrs. Tyler read the book, Happy Birthday to You! by Dr. Seuss. Each child received a pencil, a birthday card, a Trojan Buck, and a fruit snack. Happy birthday to all the October birthdays!



October First Grade Birthdays

Back Row: Maison (10-26), Taylor (10-29), Layton (10-2), Benjamin (10-9), and Henry (10-12)

Front Row: Caitlyn (10-5), Emily (10-4), Brayden (10-11), Kelsey (10-8), and Savannah (10-20)

TYLER TUESDAY

Tuesday, November 6th

For all November Birthdays!

Call Pam @ 528-3215 to register!



Kindergarten October Birthdays

Back Row: Karsen (10-30), Reece (10-20), Kamden (10-21), and Alex (10-24)

Front Row: Angela (10-11), Rayna (10-23), and Kadence (10-9)



October Second Grade Birthdays

Back Row: Jacob (10-17), Dahne (10-30) and Xander (10-21)

Front Row: Aubree (10-7), Liliana (10-10), and Kaylyn (10-27)



Nurse's Notes by Rachel Sehr, School Nurse

Saturday, November 3 - Flu shots will be administered from 8-noon at the Hartford Elementary.

Tuesday, November 6 - SDSU nursing students will begin 1-5 grade health screenings at the Humboldt Elementary. USF nursing students will also be at the Hartford Elementary observing K-2 classrooms in preparation for health teaching.

Tuesday, November 13 - USF nursing students will be teaching the K-2 classrooms the importance of hand washing and other health related topics.

Saturday, November 17 - Flu shots will be administered from 8-noon at the Humboldt Elementary.

Tuesday, November 20 - SDSU nursing students will begin 1-2 grade health screenings at the Hartford Elementary.

Tuesday, November 27 - USF nursing students will continue health screenings at the Humboldt Elementary.

Wednesday, November 28 - USF nursing students will finish up remaining health screenings at both the Humboldt and Hartford Elementary Schools.

Thursday, November 29 - The Sertoma Club will be doing hearing screenings for first, third, and fifth grade students at both elementary buildings.

Letters will be sent home to parents to notify them of any abnormal findings discovered during the screenings. Those parents will also receive an email/phone call to follow up on any referrals after a couple weeks.

If you have questions or concerns regarding any of the events listed above, please contact the school nurse at Rachel.Sehr@k12.sd.us or 528-3215, Ext 1333.

Absent Line & Eating Lunch

Parents: Please call the "absent line" if your child is not going to be at school - otherwise we need to call you by 9:00 am! 528-3215 (Press 2) as soon as the voice starts talking.

Also, we need all parents, grandparents, etc. to call in by 9:00 am if you're planning to eat a school lunch. We need to have enough food for all! 528-3215 (Press 0) as soon as the voice starts talking.

PTA NEWS

Upcoming Events

November 16th - Donuts for Dad's at Hartford (7:15 AM) and Humboldt Elementary (7:30 AM) - Sponsored by the PTA!

December 10th - PTA night at Pizza Ranch 4:30 PM - 8 PM

Special Fundraising Projects for 2012-2013

1. Reduce school supply list by providing **ALL** notebooks and folders for the 2013-2014 school year.
2. Provide shin guards and soccer nets for the Humboldt and

Hartford Elementary play grounds.

PTA annual membership is \$5.00. This year, members who activate their card will receive \$10.00 off a \$50.00 purchase at Office Max! Drop off your membership dues - along with a sheet of paper with your name, address, phone number, email address, and employer - at the school office or with your school's PTA representative. Please feel free to email us at: ptawestcentral@gmail.com for any suggestions or comments or visit our website at <http://westcentralpta.shutterfly.com> . We would love to hear from you!

Clothing Donations Needed:

As a K-2 Elementary School, we sometimes get wet clothing at recess, or have accidents. If you could donate any of the following, we could use a supply:

- New underwear for girls sizes 4, 6, & 8
- New underwear for boys sizes 4, 6, & 8
- The following can be new or gently used:
- Shirts size 10 boys & size 10 girls
- socks
- Elastic waist pants for girls sizes 7, 8 & 10
- Elastic waist pants for boys sizes 5, 6, 8 & 10



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PTA Meeting
Tuesday,
November 6th
HS Library
7:00 pm

To Best Inform Your Child:

Please call the school office by 3:00 if there is change of plans for your child as to where they go after school. The office area can be quite busy toward the end of the day and we want to make sure your child gets messages in time!

528-3215 (press 0)

Fire Safety

October was fire safety month. We had a visit from our local fire crew along with our EMT's. Thanks to all our volunteers!



Above: EMT Linda Hartman speaks to first grade students.

Below: First grade students are shown the insides of the truck.



The Giving Tree

If you've never read the book "The Giving Tree" with your child, you should. It is a great story. In keeping with the Giving Tree theme, we are again having our giving tree in our foyer. It is our Christmas tree that has the ages and wishes of students from our district who need a helping hand this Christmas season. If you are in need of assistance for your child this season, please call Pam or me at 528-3215 and we can put student information (not names) on our tags. We keep the names and families



Above: The local fire crew assist second grade students from the Fire Safety House.



confidential. If you are able to help this Christmas season, please take a tag (or two) and purchase what is on the tag. Return the tag to school with the gift by Monday, December 10th. We will see that the items get delivered to the families in time for Christmas. Thanks in advance for helping!

WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

Thanks to all who participated in the Walk to School Day on October 3rd! We had a great turn-out and a great time!



2nd Grade Parents:

If your child sold items for our Great American Fundraiser, please come to the school between 3:30 - 7:00 on November 1st to pick up the items!

Thanks!

Parent/Teacher Conferences:

Monday, November 5th

4:30 - 8:00 pm

Thursday, November 8th

4:30 - 8:00 pm

THE TROJAN BUCK STORE

Because of the Positive Behavior rewards system that Mrs. Tyler and the teachers have initiated in the classroom, halls, playground, etc., the demand on the Trojan Buck Store continues to grow. This is wonderful!! However, the money available to purchase prizes has not increased. This is where you can help!

The Trojan Buck Store welcomes donations!

- Gently used toys - things you wouldn't mind your child receiving.
- Kids Meal prizes.
- Dollar Store and sale items.
- Gift Cards to purchase items.

The children look forward to spending the Bucks they earn each month. It is rewarding to watch them learn to purchase, count money, receive change, and even SAVE money for the "big ticket" items.

Thank you!
The Trojan Buck
Store Volunteers



VETERANS' DAY PROGRAM

We believe that an important part of your child's education is learning about Veterans' Day and sacrifices others have made for our country. Join us at our Veterans' Day program on Monday, November 12th in our Hartford Elementary gym @ 2:00 pm. Our speakers this year will be Casey Jost and David Larson. We will hear several classes sing, along with some music from our MS/HS

students. Our Hartford American Legion will be there to show us proper flag folding. Hope to see you there!



HELPING HANDS



Please consider taking a "Helping Hand" for your child's teacher. These are items needed for the classroom that are not in the classroom spending budget. You can really make a difference! Just choose a hand from the classroom door, purchase the item(s) for the teacher, and send it to school with your child. Thank you for your generosity.

COLD WEATHER DRESS & INFORMATION

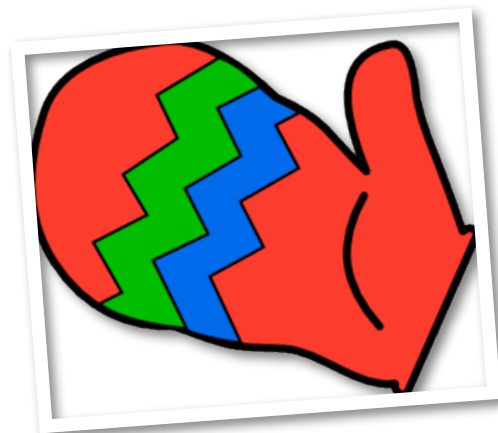
Now that the weather is turning colder, it's important to have your child dressed for outdoor recess. Children are outdoors until 8:25 each morning. They also have a 15 minute recess before lunch and another 15 minute recess in the afternoon. We are outdoors unless the weather is below 0 in actual temperature or with the wind chill. In snow, children need boots and snow pants to play on the playground.

Even if the temperature has a high of 70 degrees, the temperature at 8:00 am might be coat, hat, and glove weather. If you're missing any cold weather items - please check our lost and found table in the front hallway.

When school has a late start due to inclement weather, the early morning KARE supervision will not be available, breakfast is not served, and Junior Kindergarten and Early Childhood do not have classes in the morning. Please make other arrangements for your child on those days.

If school is dismissed early, please listen to the news stations, or check email/phone messages for a message from our School Reach calling system. KARE will not be held on early dismissals, so we can get students and staff home in a timely manner.

Thank you,
Mrs. Tyler



Thanks to our PTA for sponsoring Donuts for Dads!

Friday, November 16th

7:15 - 8:30 am

No School
Friday, November 9th
Wednesday, November 21st
(Staff In-service)
Thursday, November 22nd
&
Friday, November 23rd
(Thanksgiving Break)

Mitchell author, Amanda Radke, spoke to our students on Thursday, October 18th. She read her book, Levi's Lost Calf and explained how she came to write the book. Pictured is Amanda during the assembly.



Making Them Suffer for What They've Done

When kids misbehave or make mistakes, do we want them to suffer for what they've done...or do we simply want them to learn responsibility?

When we slip into the "making-them-suffer" mentality, the odds of success take a dive...along with our relationship with the child.

When we remember that "discipline" simply means "teaching," the odds are much higher that we'll remain empathetic...even loving...as we allow our children to learn from consequences.

A parent recently asked:

Our twelve-year-old son started to make a habit of lying to us about what was going on at school. We did our best to be empathetic as we described how he would have to do plenty of extra chores to replace the energy he had drained out of us. He had to pull weeds, clean up a bunch of old, rotted firewood, clean out a nasty dusty lawn shed, and a few other tedious jobs.

What worried us was his attitude about it all. He didn't even get upset. He even seemed to like it.

What are we doing wrong?

I suggested waiting and paying close attention to whether or not their son's politician-like behavior continued. Months later, she was excited to say that it did not.

***Kids don't need to be upset about consequences
to learn from consequences.***

Of course, the odds for learning go way up when consequences meet the following guidelines:

- **They are logical.**
The consequence makes sense given the child's mistake or misbehavior.
- **They are provided with love.**
The consequence is delivered with sincere empathy instead of frustration, anger, or sarcasm.
- **They are enforceable.**
The consequence is something we can actually do, and it doesn't punish us as we provide it.
- **They are preceded with very few words.**
Before the consequence is provided, there are no repeated warnings, threats, or lectures.
- **When they are over, they are over.**

After providing the consequence, the adult doesn't rub salt in the wounds by lecturing, moralizing, or trying to make sure that the child has learned a lesson.

Congratulations to Mrs. Spielmann who was one of 5 chosen to compete for the state of SD Teacher of the Year! She is pictured here at the awards ceremony in Chamberlain on October 11th.



REFLECTIONS....



Changes are coming. Some of you may not be aware of this, but I'm the curriculum director for our district K-12, as well as being Hartford

Elementary Principal. I try to keep abreast of all the changes, but there is a big one coming our way...

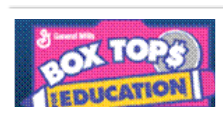
SD is one of 47 states who have adopted the Common Core State Standards for reading and math. While we've had South Dakota State Standards for many years, the state is telling us they have not been enough. Changes are coming. These new standards are more rigorous. Some of what was taught in 4th and 5th grade will now be taught in grade 2. Some second grade standards have moved to kindergarten. Some Precalculus standards are moving to Algebra II. I think you're getting the picture. While much of this is scary if you look only at the content changes, there are many good things about these changes as well.

Not only is content changing, but the way teachers teach the content. Because the new testing will begin in 2014-2015, districts across the state and nation are scrambling to find ways (through professional development) to help the teachers adapt teaching styles and adjust their curriculum to match the new standards. These new standards aim to make connections for the students to the real world...to really understand what they are learning not to just parrot back an answer.

At West Central, we realize that part of our education will need to be with you, the parents. We are still ingesting and internalizing the changes. We are hoping to get you all a glimpse of these changes at conferences. Feel free to stop in and chat or check out this Common Core website:

www.corestandards.org.

- Mrs. Tyler



Box Tops for Education

Just clip, put in a baggie and return to school! There is also a drop box at Sunshine.



Save Five for Schools

Just wash these milk and juice lids and send to school in a baggie (or Sunshine). Watch for store specials! We need the WHOLE lid!



Labels for Education

This is not just Campbell's Soup Labels anymore! There are many products that qualify. Check it out at labelsforeducation.com. You can send labels to school with your child or drop in box @ Sunshine.

Cell Phones/Ink Cartridges

You can drop off old cell phones or ink cartridges and we can recycle and get money back. There is a box inside our front door.